Exhibit 2

Order of the Alabama Public Service Commission



STATE OF ALABAMA ALABAMA PUBLIC RETVICE COMMISSION P.O. 800. 691

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PINE BELT CELLULAR, INC. and PINE BELT PCS, INC.,

Jeint Petitioners

PETITION: For ETC status and/or elarification regarding the jurisdiction of the Commission to grant ETC status to wireless carriers.

DOCKET U-4400

ORDER

BY THE COMMISSION:

In a joint pleading submitted on September 11, 2001, Pine Selt Cellular, Inc. and Pine Belt PCS, Inc. (collectively referred to as "Pine Belt") each notified the Commission of their desire to be designated as universal service eligible telecommunications carriers ("ETCs") for purposes of providing wireless ETC service in certain of the non-rural Alabama wireline service territories of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. "BellSouth") and Verizon South, Inc. ("Verizon"). The Pine Belt companies noted their selfillation with Pine Belt Telephone Company, a provider of wireline telephone service in rural Alabama, but clarified that they exclusively provide cellular telecommunications and personal communications (collectively referred to as "CMRS" or "wireless") services in their respective service areas in Alabama in accordance with licenses granted by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"). The pivotal (saue raised in the Joint pleading of Pine Belt companies is whether the Commission will assert jurisdiction in this matter given the wireless status of the Pine Belt companies.

As noted in the filing of the Pine Belt companies, state Commissions have primary responsibility for the designation of eligible telecommunications carriers in their respective jurisdictions for universal service purposes pursuant to 47 USC §214(e). The Commission indeed established guidelines and requirements for attaining ETC status in this jurisdiction pursuant to notice issued on October 31, 1897.

DOCKET U-4400 - #2

For carriers not subject to state jurisdiction, however, §214(a)(6) of the Telecommunications Act of 1986 provides that the FCC shall, upon request, designate such carriers as ETCs in non-rural service territories if said carriers must the requirements of §214(a)(1). In an FCC Public Notice released December 29, 1997 (FCC 97-416) entitled "Propadures for FCC designation of Eligible Telecommunications Carriers pursuant to §214(a)(6) of the Telecommunications Act", the FCC required such applicant seeking ETC designation from the FCC to provide, among other things, "a cartification and brief statement of supporting facts demonstrating that the Patitioner is not subject to the jurisdiction of a state Commission."

The Pine Belt companies enclosed with their joint pleading completed ETC application forms as developed by the Commission. In the event the Commission determines that it does not have juriediction to act on the Pine Belt request for ETC status, however, the Pine Belt companies seek an affirmative written statement from the Commission indicating that the Commission lacks juriediction to grant them ETC status as wireless carriers.

The leave concerning the APSC's jurisdiction over providers of callular services, broadband personal communications services, and commercial mobile radio services is one that was rather recently addressed by the Commission. The Commission indeed issued a Declaratory Ruling on March 2, 2000, in Docket 28414 which concluded that as the result of certain amendments to the Code of Alabama, 1975 §40-21-120(2) and (1)(a) effectuated in June of 1999, the APSC has no authority to regulate, in any respect, cellular services, broadband personal communications services and commercial mobile radio services in Alabama. Given the aforementioned conclusions by the Commission, it seems rather clear that the Commission has no jurisdiction to take action on the Application of the Pine Belt companies for ETC status in this jurisdiction. The Pine Belt companies and all ether wireless providers seeking ETC status should pursue their ETC designation request with the FCC se provided by 47 USC \$214(e)(6).

DOCKET U-4400 - #3

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED BY THE COMMISSION, That the Commission's Jurisdiction to grant Eligible Telecommunications Carrier status for universal service purposes does not extend to providers of callular services, broadband personal communications services, and commercial mobile radio services. Providers of such services seeking Eligible Telecommunications Carrier status should eccordingly pursue their requests through the Federal Communications Commission,

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, That this Order shall be effective as of the date haraof.

DONE at Montgomery, Alabama, this 12th day of March, 2002.

ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

- Cook Cook, Commissioner

ATTEST: A True Copy





STATE OF ALABAMA

ALABAMA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
P.O. BOX 991
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36101-0991

October 19, 2001

JIM SULLIVAN, PRESIDENT

JAN COOK, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

GEORGE C WALLACE, JR., ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER

WALTER L. THOMAS, JR

Phyllis A. Whitten Swidler Berlin, Shereff Friedman, LLP 3000 K Street, NW, Suite 300 Washington, DC 20007-5116

Dear Ms. Whitten:

I am in receipt of the <u>Application for ETC Status and Request for Clarification Regarding Jurisdiction</u> which you filed with the Alabama Public Service Commission (the "APSC") on September 11, 2001, on behalf of your clients Pine Belt Cellular, Inc. and Pine Belt PCS, Inc. (collectively "Pine Belt" or the "Pine Belt companies"). As noted in your filing, both Pine Belt companies are affiliated with Pine Belt Telephone Company, a provider of wireline telephone service in Alabama.

I understand from your filing that the Pine Belt companies provide cellular telecommunications and personal communications (collectively referred to as "CMRS" or "wireless") services within Alabama in accordance with licenses granted by the Federal Communications Commission (the "FCC"). According to your representations, the service territories of the Pine Belt companies in Alabama include Alabama Rural Service Area 3B3 for cellular services and the Selma basic trading area (FCC market B415) for personal communications services.

3BZ

As recognized in your filing, state commissions have primary responsibility under 47 USC §214(e) for the designation of eligible telecommunications carriers ("ETCs") in their respective jurisdictions for universal service purposes. The APSC established the guidelines and requirements for attaining ETC status in this jurisdiction pursuant to notice issued on October 31, 1997. As a threshold matter, your filing seeks clarification as to whether the APSC will assert jurisdiction over each Pine Belt company's request to be designated as a universal service eligible telecommunications carrier to provide wireless ETC service in the non-rural Alabama wireline service territories of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and Verizon South, Inc.

The issue concerning the APSC's jurisdiction over providers of cellular services, broadband personal communications services and commercial mobile radio services is one that was rather recently addressed by the APSC. The APSC Indeed issued a Declaratory Ruling on March 2, 2000, in Docket 26414 which concluded that as the result of certain amendments to the <u>Code of Alabama</u>, 1975 §40-21-120(2) and (1)(a) effectuated in June

PHYLLIS A. WHITTEN OCTOBER 19, 2001 PAGE #2

of 1999, the APSC has no authority to regulate in any respect cellular services, broadband personal communications services and commercial mobile radio services in Alabama.

Given the above conclusion by the APSC, it seems rather clear that the APSC has no jurisdiction to take action on the Application of the Pine Belt companies for ETC status in this jurisdiction to provide wireless ETC service in the non-rural Alabama wireline service territories of BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. and Verizon South, Inc. The Pine Belt companies should instead pursue their ETC designation request with the FCC as provided by 47 USC §214(e)(6).

Although the views expressed herein are those of your writer and do not necessarily constitute an official action of the APSC, I am confident that this writing provides the clarification you requested concerning the ETC designation request of your clients. Should you need further clarification in order to pursue ETC designations for the Pine Belt companies at the FCC, please do not hesitate to contact me at (334) 242-5200.

Sincerely

ohn A. Garner

Administrative Law Judge

JAG:klr